

An aerial photograph of Wallops Research Park, showing a large, rectangular, paved area in the center, surrounded by green fields and trees. The paved area appears to be a large parking lot or a runway. The surrounding landscape is a mix of green fields, trees, and some buildings. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

Wallops Research Park

A Workforce Development Initiative on Virginia's Eastern Shore

Presented to

**Governor's Broadband Roundtable
Regional Meeting**

Cape Charles, Virginia

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**Dean of Workforce Development Services
Eastern Shore Community College**

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Wallops Research Park (WRP)

PARTNERS:

- Accomack County, Virginia
- NASA Wallops Flight Facility*
- Marine Science Consortium
- Eastern Shore Community College**
- Virginia Housing & Comm Development
- Employers
 - Baysys Technologies
 - Defense Contractors
 - U.S. Navy
 - Others

* WFF is part of Goddard Space Flight Center. The GSFC is located outside Washington, D.C.

** ESCC is the lead agent for the initial feasibility study.

PURPOSE:

Establish a research park focused on commercial aerospace, applied earth science and educational offerings.

GOAL:

Provide a long-term environment that attracts and maintains science, technology and educational endeavors to supplement the core capabilities of Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), other Wallops Flight Facility partners and the Marine Science Consortium while contributing to the economic development of the Eastern Shore of Virginia and Maryland.

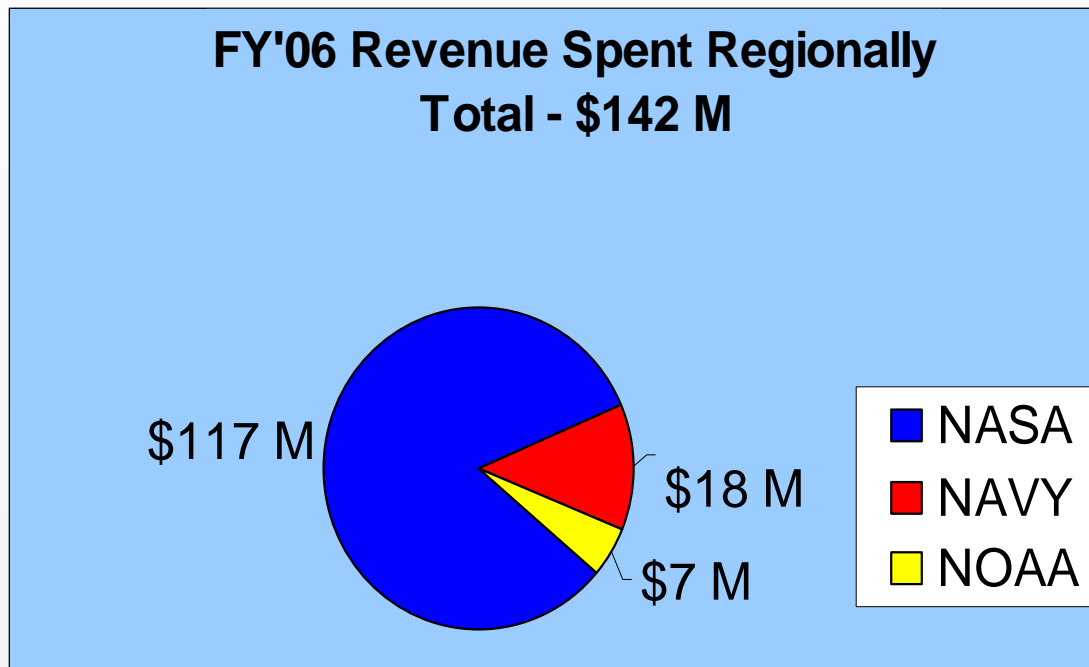
Overall Economic Development Goals

- Develop comprehensive planning that enables growth in all sectors.
- Leverage existing federal facility investment and employment opportunities to spark Wallops area as a regional research and technology area.
- Supplement educational and work force development opportunities on the Shore in the scientific and technical fields for increased collaboration, professional development and outreach.
- Create high tech jobs to retain the Shore's best and brightest and attract others with our quality of life.



Wallops Area Economic Impact

- In fiscal year 2006, \$142 million in revenue spent on the Eastern Shore.

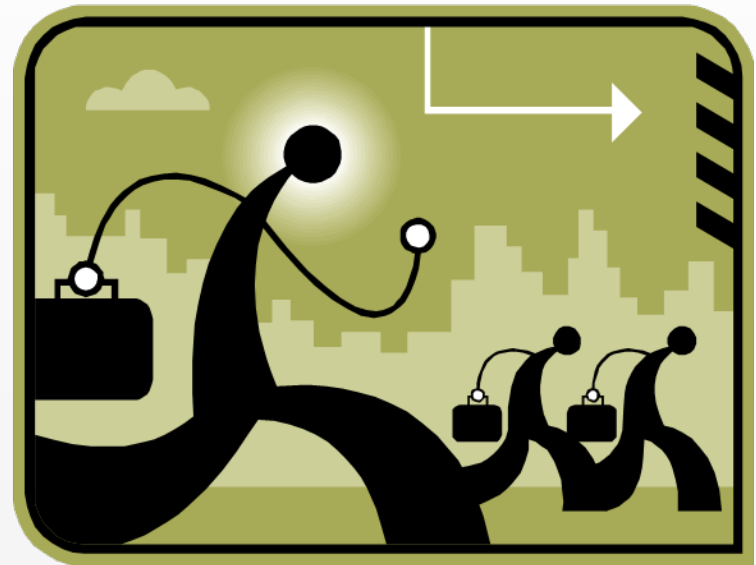


Current WRP Plans and Progress

- The WRP now consists of a combined 240 acres – contributed by the three park principals – adjacent to Wallops Flight Facility. The entire park is within an Enterprise Zone.
- The park concept tentatively calls for five uses – aerospace, research, education, recreation, mixed use and commercial.
- A workforce training/business incubator facility is planned in the park's education section. WRP principals are working with Virginia and Maryland-based educational institutions.
- Two new facilities have been built in the park area – a NASA payload processing building and the Marine Science Consortium cafeteria. Renovation is underway on the rest of the MSC campus including the space camp dorm. Construction will soon begin for a new office building.
- WRP principals are working with Virginia Housing and Community Development to create the park. BaySys Technologies, LLC will locate in the park as part of this relationship.

Moving Forward

- Development of park master plan to be completed by the end of the year.
- Construction of facilities for two tenants set to begin first quarter 2008.
- Feasibility study for workforce development/business incubator underway, to be completed by mid-January 2008.
- **Broadband “backbone” up the Shore is critical to WRP’s success.**
- More funding sought to support the WRP.



Workforce Development Implications

- Three potential ESCC centers for Workforce Development:
 - Wallops Research Park (North)
 - New Building on Melfa Campus (Mid)
 - Cape Charles Instructional Site (South)
- Distance Learning Will Be Key Component of Future WFD:
 - Anytime, Anywhere Convenience
 - Workplace (Employer) or Home (Personal)
 - Increased Variety of Instructional Options
- College Has T-1 Line in Melfa
 - Need Broadband at Wallops
 - Need Broadband at Cape Charles
- Learners Need Broadband to Access On-Line Courses



Economic Development Implications

- Global Marketplace Challenges
 - Internet Marketing Norms Becoming More Complex
 - E-Commerce Transactions Require Security and Bandwidth
 - Average Client Download Patience Level Decreasing to Close to Five Seconds
- Global Marketplace Opportunities
 - Wide Market for Niche Products
 - Green Businesses Usually Require Connectivity (Hi-Tech; Research, etc.)
- Home-Based Business Boom
 - Opportunities for Small Business Growth and Expansion
 - Broadband Capabilities of Community Important Consideration in Decisions to Relocate

